

# ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

## MEETING MINUTES

September 28, 2006, 7:30pm Parish Media Room

### 1) ATTENDANCE

#### **Present**

Members:

Jerry Briner (president)  
Ed Lavin  
Grizelle Apodaca  
Nathan Cottrell

Jennifer Henze  
Jojo Concepcion  
Helen Morton  
Tim Molnar

Designated School Board Representatives:

Caren Bailey  
Maria Herrera-Bill

#### **Absent**

Fr. Kieran Kleczewski  
Lory Charnetsky

### 2) OPENING PRAYER

Jerry Briner called the meeting to order.  
Jennifer Henze offered the opening prayer

### 3) APPROVAL OF OLD MINUTES

Jerry Briner requested a discussion or motion for approval of August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006 meeting minutes.  
Approved unanimously.

### 4) SCHEDULED DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### a) Update on council membership

- Jerry Briner brought up a potential candidate; Carol Ruiz. He indicated that the opening spot on the council will be filled by Fr. Kieran by appointment. Carol's resume will be held in reserve for consideration for the next open position.

#### b) Election of officers for 2006-2007

- Jerry Briner opened the floor for discussion and nomination of officers.
- Jojo Concepcion nominated Jerry Briner for president. The nomination was seconded by Helen Morton.  
Unanimous vote, approved.
- Helen Morton nominated Jennifer Henze for secretary. Jennifer Henze reminded the council that she may have limited time available in the near future. No second or vote was made.

- Jerry Briner nominated Nathan Cottrell for secretary. The nomination was seconded by Helen Morton.  
Unanimous vote, approved.
- c) Reports on Council supported activities
- Report on Ministerial Leadership Conference of September 23<sup>rd</sup> by Ed Lavin. The leadership conference is intended to provide feedback from all of the ministries. The attendance of this was lower than in the past. Jennifer Henze asked if all of the ministries had to ask permission prior to setting up tables on Sundays. Jerry Briner indicated that they do. Helen Morton added that the tables need to benefit the church/parish instead of benefiting only the specific ministry.
  - Report on Priest/Deacon appreciation potluck, coming up on October 29<sup>th</sup> by Helen Morton. Jerry Briner will make sure the potluck will be in the Sunday bulletin for the three weeks prior (Oct 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>). The parish council will fill out the request form to put out a table on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Jennifer Henze said that she will get the potluck put into the Lectern reading on the 22<sup>nd</sup> as a last reminder of the potluck. The potluck needs a “theme”. Any ideas are welcome.  
Helen Morton asked if everyone on the council can contribute to the potluck. A signup sheet can be created and emailed out to all of the ministries. Helen Morton and Nathan Cottrell can get the signup sheet sent out.
  - Report on Military appreciation dinner coming up on November 4<sup>th</sup> by Jerry Briner. The dinner is offered by the Parish Council and is intended to recognize vets and active military alike. There will be a speaker from the military and a live band (Army Reserve). Tim Molnar is still working out the details. The cost of the event will be \$15 per person. Helen Morton requested that each of the council can provide a single wrapped gift (less than \$10 value) by the week prior. These gifts will be given away as door prizes.
- d) Update on stewardship campaign
- Jerry Briner opened discussion of the stewardship campaign to Ed Lavin. Ed Lavin outlined the proposed program as discussed in the finance meeting. (*see the attached outline, made a part of these meeting minutes*). The council needs to assist in providing some potential names of people that would be good in each area of involvement.
- e) Formation of parish activity commissions
- Jerry Briner brought up the potential formation of five Activity Commissions. He indicated these commissions could each be headed by two member of the parish council. In turn, 4 or 5 additional members could be brought in. These 6 or 7 people could then oversee ministerial activities and report back to the council to ensure that the activities of each ministry works in harmony with others toward common parish goals.
  - Grizelle Apodaca brought up a concern about overlapping function. She brought up questions of 1) what will the overall purpose of the commissions be 2) what will be their goals 3) how will they be formatted 4) who will they report to.
  - Ed Lavin brought up a concern for the timing of the creation of these commissions. Should they be delayed until after the stewardship campaign is well under way? Jerry Briner indicated that the commissions would be completely separate and could operate concurrently without issue.
  - It was agreed by all that additional discussion was necessary for these commissions. The discussions would be directed to answer 1) organization 2) ties to which ministries 3) purpose 4) how they would fit into the overall parish strategy. A possible retreat or work study session for later this fall would be appropriate to organize the commissions. No specific dates were discussed.

- Jerry Briner indicated that Karen Maron (sp) should be invited to the work study session to help identify how they would work with the parish ministries..

5) OTHER ISSUES / NEW BUSINESS

None brought up.

6) SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

Jerry Briner proposed dates of October 17<sup>th</sup> or October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion of availability...

Decision: October 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm. Meeting location not discussed.

7) CLOSING PRAYER

Grizelle Apodaca offered the closing prayer.

Adjournment.